

October 31, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Kuznetsov and the Cuban Missile Crisis

Adlai Stevenson had lunch on Tuesday with Kuznetsov. He reports that Kuznetsov was cordial and forthcoming. Kuznetsov said that he planned to stay in the United States for some time, could be of any use, and that he hoped to discuss a whole range of problems. He mentioned particularly the disarmament and the bases.

Stevenson came away with the distinct impression that Kuznetsov is seeking discussion on a much wider basis than Cuba alone; that he has come up not only to wind up the Cuban affair but to engage in a general exploration of outstanding issues; and that, while he has no negotiating authority, he is feeling out the prospects of laying the groundwork for a broad talk on a high level.

Stevenson was reserved in his response but wonders whether it might not be useful for the Secretary of State to meet with Kuznetsov in New York or Washington as soon as we begin to make progress on the Cuban negotiations.

He has reported all this to the Secretary and wanted me to pass this along to you.

Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.

Mr. Bundy

Mr. Kaye

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SUBJECT: What to do about Kuznetsov?

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Stevenson came away with the distinct impression that Kuznetsov is seeking discussion on a much wider basis than Cuba alone; that he has come up not only to wind up the Cuban affair but to engage in a general exploration of outstanding issues; and that, while he has no negotiating authority; he is feeling out the prospect of laying the groundwork for a broad talk on a high level.

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cc: Mr. Bundy
Mr. Kaysen